



AGRICULTURAL TMDL 2004 ACTION PLAN

APPENDIX 3

Agricultural TMDL—2004 Action Plan



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Goal: *Develop and implement agricultural portions of TMDL watershed plans in an equitable manner proportional to the problem, in order to achieve water quality standards and enhance beneficial uses.*

Objective 1:

Develop, refine, and implement agricultural TMDL process.

Action Items:

1. Assist other agencies with understanding the overall TMDL effort as a dynamic watershed process.

Responsibility: *EPA and DEQ*

Target Date: *Immediate/Ongoing*

2. Provide feedback to EPA and DEQ with regard to future changes in TMDL process.

Responsibility: *Agricultural TMDL Technical Committee*

Target Date: *Ongoing*

3. Follow all TMDL outlines and guidance provided by DEQ and EPA.

Responsibility: *Agricultural TMDL Technical Committee*

Target Date: *Immediate/Ongoing*

Objective 2:

Accelerate TMDL training and outreach

Action Items:

1. Reactivate Training and Outreach subcommittee

Responsibility: *ISCC*

Target Date: *07/01/04*

2. Emphasize TMDL training to local SCDs, and WAGs.

Responsibility: *Training and Outreach Sub-Committee*

Target Date: *Immediate*

3. Accelerate the dissemination of TMDL information and education to agricultural landowners and general public.

Responsibility: *ISCC, U of I, and SCDs*

Target Date: *Ongoing*

4. Funding and program training integration for ISCC field staff

Responsibility: *ISCC Program Staff*

Target Date: *Ongoing*



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5. Accelerate the Distribution of TMDL information and education through the use of local and topic-specific workshops.

Responsibility: *Training and Outreach Subcommittee*

Target Date: *12/01/04*

Objective 3:

Facilitate TMDL development and implementation through enhanced inter-agency coordination and communication efforts.

Action Items:

1. Use Coordinated Resource Management Process (CRMP) to ensure complete TMDLs and comprehensive watershed management plans for watersheds with mixed federal, state, and private ownerships as appropriate. See CRM handbook.

Responsibility: *All core agencies*

Target Date: *Per TMDL schedule*

2. Establish and maintain effective communication linkages between all agricultural agencies, industry organizations, SCDs, individual farmers and ranchers to provide a unified voice for agricultural in the TMDL process

Responsibility: *ISCC*

Target Date: *Ongoing*

3. Complete annual TMDL coordination meetings on a regional basis

Responsibility: *ISCC*

Target Date: *12/01/04*

Objective 4:

Ensure Effective TMDL implementation

Action Items:

1. Continue providing technical assistance to SCDs in gathering and providing information to Department of Environmental Quality for development of subbasin assessments and TMDLs.

Responsibility: *ISCC*

Target Date: *In accordance with TMDL schedule*

2. Continue providing assistance to SCDs with review and comment on subbasin and TMDLs

Responsibility: *ISCC*

Target Date: *Based upon completion by DEQ*

3. Initiate agricultural TMDL actions as per Idaho's TMDL schedule.

Responsibility: *Agricultural Agencies*

Target Date: *Immediate*



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4. Work with local SCDs, WAGs, local working groups, DEQ regional offices and NCRS field offices to identify surface and groundwater priorities for implementation.

Responsibility: *ISCC, NCRS, ISDA*

Target Date: *Immediate*

5. Initiate development of program neutral agricultural components of TMDL watershed implementation plans based on local priorities for the following areas:

- a. Willow Creek
- b. Lower Bear – Malad River
- c. Lower Henry's Fork
- d. Big Lost River
- e. Little Wood River
- f. Cow Creek
- g. South Fork of the Clearwater River
- h. Little Salmon River
- i. Salmon Falls Creek
- j. American Falls Reservoir
- k. C.J. Strike Reservoir
- l. Lower North Fork of the Payette River

Responsibility: *ISCC*

Target Date: *Ongoing*

6. Complete agricultural components of the TMDL implementation plans in the following areas:

- a. Blackfoot River
- b. Teton River
- c. Teton River
- d. Raft River
- e. Big Wood River
- f. Weiser River
- g. Upper Owyhee River
- h. Mid-Snake - Succor

Responsibility: *ISCC*

Target Date: *December 31, 2004*

Objective 5:

Intensify focus on riparian issues involved with TMDL implementation.

Action Items:

1. Schedule riparian assessments according to TMDL implementation plan schedule.

Responsibility: *ISCC*

Target Date: *April 30, 2004*



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2. The following assessments will be scheduled or are expected for 2004:
 - a. Little Salmon River & Big Creek
 - b. Weiser River – Cottonwood, Cove, Johnson, Little Weiser, Mann, North and South Fork Crane, Pine, and West Fork Weiser Creeks
 - c. Little Wood River – Little Wood, Fish, and Dry Creeks
 - d. Jordan Creek – Jordan, Louse, Louisa, Williams, and Flint Creeks
 - e. Middle Fork Payette – Middle Fork Payette, Scriver, and Anderson Creeks
 - f. West Branch Tributaries of the Priest River
 - g. Kootenai River – Deep Creek
 - h. North Fork of the Coeur d'Alene River
 - i. Lower Bear – Little Malad
 - j. Middle Portneuf
 - k. Pocatello Creek
 - l. Willow Creek
 - m. Corral Creek
 - n. Lower Blackfoot
 - o. Lower Rapid Creek

Responsibility: *ISCC Staff*

Target Date: *December 1, 2004*

3. Prepare and/or assist local ISCC, NCRS, SCD and other field staff on 2003 scheduled riparian assessments accordingly, dependent on TMDL problem assessment, water quality, and habitat needs.

Responsibility: *ISCC and NCRS*

Target Date: *Ongoing*

4. Provide local ISCC, NCRS, SCD and other field staff reports of findings after riparian assessments have been completed.

Responsibility: *ISCC*

Target Date: *Ongoing*

Objective 6:

Agricultural pollutant source/transport and ground water monitoring

Action Items:

1. Plan and implement agricultural pollutant source/transport monitoring associated with 303(d)-listed waterbodies

Responsibility: *ISDA, IASCD, SCDs, ISCC, and NCRS*

Target Date: *Ongoing*

2. Utilize water quality data in TMDL implementation plans. Complete final project reports and present data to appropriate agencies and public groups

Responsibility: *ISDA, IASCD, SCDs, and ISCC*

Target Date: *Ongoing*



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3. Develop water quality data outreach program
Responsibility: *ISDA, IASCD, SCDs, and ISCC*
Target Date: *Ongoing*
4. Assist local Soil Conservation Districts with the development of water quality monitoring plans for the agricultural components of TMDL implementation plans
Responsibility: *ISDA, IASCD, SCDs, and ISCC*
Target Date: *Ongoing*
5. Continue to implement the Regional Ground Water Quality Monitoring Program
6. Currently 12 active regional projects statewide
7. Plans are ongoing to eliminate projects showing good water quality over the past five years and substitute them with new projects in other geographical areas of the state.
Responsibility: *ISDA, IASCD, SCDs, and ISCC*
Target Date: *Ongoing*
8. Continue to implement local scale projects (<10 mi²) to evaluate potential agricultural impacts
9. Two pesticide-related projects and six dairy/CAFO-related projects are currently being implemented.
10. Plans are ongoing to implement new projects.
Responsibility: *ISDA, IASCD, SCDs, and ISCC*
Target Date: *Ongoing*
11. Continue ground water quality testing at dairies across the state that have tested above the health standard for nitrate.
12. Individual dairies currently being evaluated through on-site assessments to determine potential for ground water impacts. Sites showing greatest potential for negative ground water quality impacts will be prospects for more in-depth monitoring projects.
13. All dairies having historically high ground water nitrate levels have been or will be retested.
Responsibility: *ISDA, IASCD, SCDs, and ISCC*
Target Date: *Ongoing*



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Objective 7:

Accelerate and expand implementation of BMP effectiveness evaluation and monitoring.

Action Items:

1. Reactivate the BMP effectiveness subcommittee in order to provide technical input and guidance for enhancement of the BMP effectiveness evaluation process.
Responsibility: ISCC
Target Date: February 1, 2004
2. Distribute BMP Effectiveness Field Guide to all ISCC/IASCD/SCD field staff.
Responsibility: ISCC
Target Date: March 1, 2004
3. Complete BMP Effectiveness Field Guide use training for ISCC/IASCD/SCD field staff.
Responsibility: ISCC
Target Date: 05/31/04
4. Coordinate ongoing water quality monitoring efforts with BMP effectiveness field evaluations.
Responsibility: ISCC
Target Date: April 1, 2004
5. Continue to refine the ISCC documentation and reporting process for BMP effectiveness implementation statewide.
Responsibility: ISCC
Target Date: Ongoing

Component Plan References

Agricultural TMDL Technical Committee is co-chaired by the Idaho Soil Conservation Commission and Natural Resources Conservation Service

1. The Committee is comprised of the following core agencies and organizations:
 - a. Idaho Soil Conservation Commission
 - b. Idaho Association Soil Conservation Districts
 - c. Idaho State Department of Agriculture
 - d. University of Idaho Extension System
 - e. Farm Services Agency
 - f. Idaho Department of Lands
 - g. Natural Resources Conservation Service
2. Other participating entities are as follows:
 - a. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality



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- b. Idaho Water Users Association
 - c. Idaho Department of Water Resources
 - d. Idaho Department of Fish and Game
 - e. U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
 - f. U.S. Bureau of Land Management
 - g. U.S. Geological Society
 - h. U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
 - i. U.S. Forest Service
- 3. Training and Outreach Sub-Committee members include:
 - a. University of Idaho Cooperative Extension Service
 - b. Idaho Association Soil Conservation Districts
 - c. Idaho Soil Conservation Commission
 - d. Idaho State Department of Agriculture
 - e. Idaho Department of Environmental Quality
 - f. Natural Resources Conservation Service